a transponder on the satellite to counter Pakistani TV propaganda; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) The Government have been making efforts to hire requisite capacity in the space segment on a foreign satellite to meet Doordarshan's requirements. Negotiations have been held with the concerned firm but it has not so far been possible to hire such a facility.

Violation of censorship norms

3943. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that violation of censorship norms, particularly by the Video pirates and Cable TV operators, are on the increase in the country; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) Under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 any film, whether on video or other formats, intended for public exhibition, is required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification. However, from time to time, there have been reports that uncertified video films are being shown. The responsibility for enforcing the penal provisions in the Cinematograph Act, 1952 rests with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations who have been advised time and again for strict implementation of the provisions of the Act and for action against the offenders.

Cable News Network Office in Delhi

3944. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cable News Network (CNN) is going to enter India and they have already started their Bureau Office in Delhi;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether they have got permission from Govt. of India to start such an Office ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) to (c) No formal application from Cable News Network (CNN) has been received in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting or the Ministry of External Affairs for permission to start their Bureau in Delhi. How ever it is understood that Cable News International, INC, Atlanta, USA (CNN) has been granted permission by Reserve Bank of India under Section 29 (1) (A) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. They have also sought accreditation or four Indian nationals.

Decision to make Air and Doordarshan Staff Artists Permanent

3945. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to make the AIR and Doordarshan staff artists permanent Government employees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the staff artists of the Films Division are also proposed to be made permanent; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) The Government have decided that all Staff Artists/Artists under the 1982 scheme working in All India Radio and Doordarshan (except Foreign Nationals) who were in service on 6th March, 1982, or appointed as such thereafter will be deemed as Government servants.

(b) and (c) No decision has been taken by the Government in this regard ?

Interviews for the Posts of ssistant Station Director

3946. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION A BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the interviews for the posts of Assistant Station Director of Doordarshan and All India Radio were conducted in the last part of 1989;

(b) whether a special drive for appointment of S.C. & S.T. Candidates was also made;

(c) how many S.C. & S.T. candidates were selected;

(d) how many S.C. & S.T. candidates of N.E. Region were selected; and

(e) if the answer to part (b) be in negative, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Five Scheduled Caste and one Scheduled Tribe.

(d) The recruitment to the posts of Assistant Station Director, a Group 'A' post in All India Radio/Doordarshan, is made on all India basis and not on regional basis. The regional roster is not applicable in this case. No SC/ST candidate from N.E. Region was placed in the panel.

(e) Does not arise.

Import of Foreign Films

3947. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to make import of foreign films absolutely free; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on Indian Film Industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

नए समाचारपत्रों के नामों को स्वीकृत किया जाना

3948. **श्री मोहम्मद अफ़ज़ल उर्फ मीम अफ़ज़ल** : क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) समाचारपत्रों के पंजीयक को नए समाचारपत्रों के नामों की स्वीकृति के लिए 1-1-1991 से 31-1-1992 तक कितने आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त हुए थे ;

(ख) उक्त अवधि के दौरान कितने नामों को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई थी ; और

(ग) 31-1-92 तक नामों की स्वीकृति के लिए कितने आवेदन पत्र लम्बित थे ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) से (ग) सूचना इस प्रकार है :—

(1) नामों की स्वीकृति के लिए प्राप्त आवेदन पत्र 22501

(2) स्वीकृत किए गए नामों की संख्या 9796

(3) लम्बित पड़े आवेदनों की संख्या 40

समाचार पत्र पंजीयक के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन

3949. **श्री मोहम्मद अफ़ज़ल उर्फ मीम अफ़ज़ल** : क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि समाचार पत्र के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन गत तीन वर्ष से प्रकाशित नहीं हुए हैं ; यदि हां तो इस संबंध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है; और

(ख) प्रतिवेदनों के प्रकाशन में विलम्ब होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) और (ख) भारत के समाचारपत्रों के पंजीयक की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट "प्रेस इन इंडिया" "भारत के समाचारपत्र" 1989 प्रकाशित हो चुकी है और उसका वितरण भी किया जा चुका है। "प्रेस इन इंडिया"/"भारत के समाचार पत्र' 1990 भी छप चुकी है। "प्रेस इन इंडिया"/"भारत के समाचारपत्र" 1991 की छपाई का काम चल रहा है।